



SECURE & PREPARED

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Volume 8, Issue 16

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“Pledge to Prepare” in September

September is Family Preparedness Month in Iowa. This year, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD), Safeguard Iowa Partnership (SIP) and Iowa Emergency Management Association (IEMA) are partnering to encourage Iowans to be more prepared for emergencies and disasters.

This year’s Family Preparedness Month theme is “Pledge to Prepare,” and HSEMD, SIP and IEMA are asking Iowans to pledge to take simple actions to help them be better pre-

pared. Actions can be as easy as setting up weather alerts on a mobile phone, assembling an emergency supply kit for a pet or holding a family meeting to discuss what members would do during an emergency inside or outside of their home.

In addition to the benefits of being better prepared, those who take the pledge can also enter a contest to win great prizes, including gift certificates and emergency supplies. There will be two ways to win: Families and

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On the Calendar...

September

Labor Day (3)*
 National Preparedness Month/
 Family Preparedness Month (Iowa)

October

Fire Prevention Week (7-13)
 America’s Safe Schools Week (21-27)

November

Winter Weather Awareness Day (8)
 Veteran’s Day (11)
 Veteran’s Day observed (12)*

*State holiday.
 HSEMD offices will be closed.

Pledge to Prepare!
 September is Family Preparedness Month.
 Click here to visit www.BeReady.iowa.gov,
 take the pledge, and enter for your chance to win!

Build a kit. Make a plan. Be aware. . . Be PREPARED!

USDA: All 99 Iowa counties disaster areas

Governor Terry E. Branstad received word late last week from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and former Iowa Governor Thomas J. Vilsack that 35 new Iowa counties have been named primary disaster areas due to the ongoing drought.

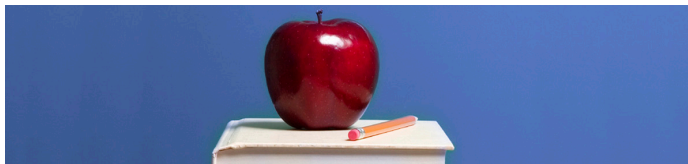
That means all 99 counties in Iowa are now covered by USDA disaster designations: 81 primary counties and 18 contiguous counties.

Other recent measures that have been put into place to assist Iowans:

- State-owned land managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources has been opened for farmers and producers for emergency grazing and haying;
- Certain weight and width and hours of service requirements for

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Training opportunities



Essential Records and COOP/COG

When: Sept. 12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Linn County EOC
 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW
 Cedar Rapids

New session!

When: Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Where: Glenwood American Legion
 104 N. Vine St.
 Glenwood

In this course you will discover the elements needed to ensure continuity of operations (COOP) under all circumstances, with a focus on ensuring availability of essential records.

For more information or to register for this course, visit www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov and choose "HSEMD Course Registration" under the "Quick Links" tab.

Emergency Planning (IS-235a)

When: Sept. 19, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Camp Dodge
 Johnston

This course is designed for emergency management personnel who are involved in developing an effective emergency planning system. This course offers training in the fundamentals of the emergency planning process, including the rationale behind planning.

For more information or to register for this course, visit www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov and choose "HSEMD Course Registration" under the "Quick Links" tab.

Exercise Design with HSEEP

When: Oct. 9-11, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Where: Henry County EMA
 900 W. Washington
 Mt. Pleasant

The course teaches exercise designers the systems and methodology associated with the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP). Participants will create exercise objectives and supporting material to conduct an exercise for their organization.

For more information or to register for this course, visit www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov and choose "HSEMD Course Registration" under the "Quick Links" tab. Ω

Recovery Bureau moves to new location

HSEMD's Recovery Bureau has moved! As of the beginning of August, the Bureau has moved into a new building.

The Bureau's new address is:

**7900 Hickman Rd, Suite 500
 Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324**

HSEMD's main office and phone number remain the same:

7105 NW 70th Ave.
 Building W-4
 Johnston, Iowa 50131
 (515) 725-3231. Ω

9th Annual Homeland Security Conference fast approaching

The 9th Annual Homeland Security Conference is coming up soon! The conference will take place Nov. 6-7 at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran's Memorial in Des Moines.

You may register, view the agenda, and connect to area hotels through www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/conference/conference.html. Early registration costs \$150 and ends on Oct. 12; after Oct. 12 the registration cost goes up to \$175.



A block of rooms has been saved at three downtown hotels. Connect through the conference page to receive the conference rate. Ω

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A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa.

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HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov

“Pledge to Prepare” in September



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individuals will be able to record and submit a video showing and telling how they are taking the pledge to prepare; and families and individuals will be able to enter a drawing by submitting their written pledge.

Beginning Sept. 4, Iowans can go to www.BeReady.iowa.gov to download the pledge and learn how they can enter the Pledge to Prepare contest and drawing. Ω

USDA: All 99 Iowa counties disaster areas

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those transporting hay, straw and stover have been temporarily waived; and

- Iowa Department of Transportation has opened up roadside ditches as another avenue for farmers to bail hay.

Gov. Branstad's website, www.governor.iowa.gov, now has a section devoted to issues surrounding the 2012 drought. You can also visit www.homeland-security.iowa.gov for additional information on assistance for businesses, agricultural producers and communities. Ω

**USDA Secretarial Disaster Designations (Drought)
Summer 2012**

